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THE REASONS OF THE LORDS and COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT,

why they cannot agree to the Alteration and Addition in the Articles of CESSATION *offered by* HIS MAJESTY.

WITH

HIS MAJESTIES

Gratious Answer thereunto.

April 4. 1643.

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TO THE KING'S *MOST EXCELLENT* MAJESTY.

THE Lords *and* Commons *in Parliament assembled, do with all humble thankfulnesse acknowledge Your* Majesties *favour in the speedy admission of their Committee to Your Royall Presence, and the expedition of Your Exceptions to their Articles; that so they might more speedily endeavour to give Your* Majesty *satisfaction: And although they were ready to agree to the Articles of Cessation, in such manner, as they expresst in their Preface, they cannot agree to the alteration and Addition offered by Your* Majesty, *without great preiudice to the Cause, and danger to the Kingdom, whose Cause it is: The reasons whereof will clearely appeare in the Answers to the particulars prest by Your* Majesty.

1. THEY doe deny that they have restrained any Trade, but to some few of those places where Your Maiesties Forces are Inquartered, and even now in the heat of Warre, doe permit the Carriers to goe into all the parts of the Kingdom, with all sorts of Commodities for the use of Subjects, except Armes, Ammunition, Money, and Bullion; But if they should grant such a free Trade, as Your Maiesty desireth, to *Oxford*, and other places where Your Forces remain, it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to keep Armes, Ammu-

nition, Mony, and Bullion from passing into Your Maiesties Army, without very strict and frequent Searches, which would make it so troublesome, chargeable, and dangerous to the Subiects, that the Question being but for twenty daies, for so few places, the mischiefes and inconveniences to the whole Kingdom, would be farre greater then any advantage which that small number of Your Subiects (whom it concerns) can have by it.

The Case then is much otherwise then is expresst by Your Maiesties Answer, for whereas they are charged, not to give the least admission of this Liberty and freedom of Trade, during the Cessation; The truth is, That they doe grant it as fully to the benefit of the Subiect, even in time of Warre; And that Your Maiesty in pressing this for the peoples good, doth therein desire that which will be very little beneficiall to the Subiects, but exceeding advantagious to Your Maiesty, in supplying Your Army with many necessaries, and making Your Quarters a Staple for such Commodities as may be vented in the adiacent Counties, and so draw many thither, whereby the Inhabitants will be better inabled by Loanes, and Contributions, to support Your Maiesties Army. And as Your Maiesties Army may receive much advantage, and the other Army much danger, if such freedom should be granted to these places; So there is no probability that the Army raised by the *Lords* and *Commons* shall have any return of Commodities, and other supplies from thence, which may be usefull for them; and they conceive, that in a Treaty for a Cessation, those demands cannot be thought reasonable, which are not indifferent, That is, equally advantagious to both parties.

As they have given no interruption to the Trade of the Kingdom, but in Relation to the supply of the cõtrary Army, which the reason of War requires; so they beseech Your Maiesty to consider, whether Your Souldiers have not robbed the Carriars in severall parts, where there hath been no such reason; And Your Ships taken many ships to the great dãmage, not only of particular Merchãts, but of the whole Kingdom; And whether Your Maiesty have not declared Your own purpose, and indeavour by Your Ministers of State, to imbargue the Merchants goods in Forraign parts, which hath been in some measure executed upon the East-land Merchants in *Denmarke*, and is a Course which will much diminish the wealth of the Kingdom,

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violate the Law of Nations, make other Princes Arbiters of the differences betwixt Your Maiesty and Your People, break off the intercourse between this, and other States, and like to bring us into Quarrells and dissentions with all the neighbour Nations.

2. To demand the approving of the Commanders of the Ships, is to desire the strength of one party to the other, before the difference be ended; & against all Rules of Treaty; To make a Cessation at Sea, would leave the Kingdom naked to those Forraigne Forces, which they have great cause to beleive, have been sollicited against them, and the Ports open for such supplies of Armes, and Aminunition, as shall be brought from beyond the Seas: but for Conveying any number of Forces by those means from one part to another, They shall observe the Articles of the Cessation, by which that is restrained.

3. As for the expression of the Army raised by the Parliament: They are contented it should be altered thus, (raised by both Houses of Parliament) as not desiring to differ upon words, but to give any conclusive power in this case to the Committee, upon such differences as may arise, wherein the Houses have given no expresse direction, is neither safe for the Committee to undertake, nor fit for the two Houses to grant; yet to debate and to presse the Reason of their desires, whereby an agreement from Your Maiesty may be procured, is granted to them: And although the two Houses did think it most proper the Cessation should be first agreed on, and that it was unfit to Treat in blood, Yet to satisfie the World of their earnest longing after Peace, They have given power to the Committees, to enter into the Treaty upon the two first Propositions, notwithstanding the Cessation be not yet assented to; And those being agreed, they hope the Foundation will be layed, not only of a suspension, but of a totall abolition of all Hostility in the Kingdom.

4. If the nature of Warre be duly considered, it must needs be acknowledged, that it is incompatible with the ordinary Rules of a peacable Government; Your Maiesty would have them commit none, but according to the knowne Lawes of the Land, whereby they conceive Your Majesty understands, that it must be by the ordinary Processe of Law, which being granted, it will follow, that no man must be committed by them for supplying Your Majesty

Armes, Powder and Ammunition; For by the Law of the Land, the Subjects may carry such goods from *London*, or any other place, to *Oxford*; The Souldiers must not be committed, if they run from their Colours, and refuse any duty in the Army; no man shall be committed for not submitting to necessary supplies of Money; so that if this be yeelded, in Your Majesties sense, they shall be disabled to restrain supplies from their Enemies, and to govern or maintaine their own Souldiers; It cannot be thought reasonable, that under the disguise of a Cessation, they should admit that which will necessarily produce the dissolving of the Army, and destruction of the Cause.

It seemes not probable that Your Majesty doth intend, that if any be taken with supplies for this Army, or mutining in Your owne, That such Persons shall not be committed, but according to the knowne Lawes of the Land, that is, by processe of Law, but rather, that Your Majesty will so interpret this limitation of known Laws, that although it lay strait Bonds upon the two Houses, yet it leaves Your Generall as much liberty as before, for it hath been denyed by Your Majesty, that these knowne Lawes give any power to the two Houses of *Parliament* to raise Armes; and so consequently their Generall cannot exercise any Martiall Law in those cases; and it is not unlike, but that it will be affirm'd, that the Generalls, constituted by Your Majesties Commission have that power by the same knowne Lawes; so that this Article, under the specious shew of Liberty and Law, would altogether disable them to defend their Liberties and Lawes, and would produce to Your Majesty an absolute Victory and submission, under pretence of a Cessation and Treaty.

5. Being by necessity inevitable on their part inforced to a defensive Warre, in this unhappy breach between Your Majesty and them, and that they are therein warranted both by the Lawes of God and man, it must needs follow, That by the same Lawes they are inabled to raise meanes to support that Warre; and therefore till it shall please God to incline Your Majesty to afford them such a Peace as may secure them, they cannot relinquish the power of laying Taxes upon those who ought to joyne with them in that defence, and the necessary waies of leavying those Taxes upon them in case of refusall; for otherwise their Army must needs be dissolved: But if Your Majesty shall consent to disband the Armies, the

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cause of the Warre being taken away, the consequences will likewise be removed; and the Subject restored to the benefit of those Lawes, which the necessity of Armes hath in such cases suspended.

6. They deny any pretence of consenting to those alterations and additions offer'd by Your Majesty, only in the preamble, They say, they have considered of those Articles, with such alterations & additions; Vnto which Articles they protest they were ready to agree, not as they were accompanied with those alterations and additions, but in such manner as they expressed. As for the clause left out in the third Article, it implyed a freedome of passage, and communication of Quarters, which is contrary to the nature of a Cessation, whereby matters should be preserved in the state they are, and neither party have liberty so much to advantage himselfe, as it is evident Your Majesty might doe, if Your Forces in the *North* and *West* might joyne with those at *Oxford*, and bring those supplies of Treasure or Armes thither which were brought out of *Holland*; or at least it should be so indifferent, as to give a proportionable advantage to the other side, which this doth not; for the Forces under the power of both Houses are so disposed, that they have an easy passage from one to the other; But Your Majesties Forces are severed the one from the other by many large Counties, strong Passes, and competent Armies; and if they had admitted this Clause, they had bereaved themselves of one of the greatest advantages, and freed Your Majesties party of one of the greatest inconveniencies, which Your Maiesty or they have in this Warre.

For the Reasons alleadged, they cannot agree to the alterations and enlargements of the Cessation propounded; or to transferre any such power to the Committee of Treaty, debating and agreeing upon those Articles in any other manner, then the Houses have directed; but that a faire and speedy passage may be opened to a seoure and a happy Peace, they have enabled their Committees to Treat and debate upon the two Propositions concerning His *Majesties* owne Revenue, the delivery of His Townes, Castles, Magazines, and Ships, and the disbanding the Armies; which being agreed upon, a present Peace and security will follow; And the Treaty upon the other Propositions be facilitated without feare of interruption, by the confusion of Warre, or exasperation of either party, by the bloody effects thereof.

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In which Treaty the two Houſes will deſire and expect nothing but what doth ſtand with Your Majeſties Honour, and the Truſt repoſed in You, and is neceſſary for Your Majeſties good Subjects, that they may enjoy the true Religion, and their Liberties, and Priviledges; And that they may freely, and in a Parliamentary way, concurre with Your Majeſty, in thoſe things which may conduce to the glory of God, the ſafety and happineſſe of Your Majeſty, and Your Poſterity, and People; And preventing the like miſerable effuſion of Engliſh Blood for the time to come; For the effecting whereof, their moſt earneſt prayers, and uttermoſt endeavours, ſhall ever be faithfully and conſtantly imployed, in hope, that God will give a bleſſing thereunto.

HIS

HIS MAIESTIES ANSWER TO THE AFORE-said REASONS.

HOw His Majesty hath spent His time since the Committee from His two Houses of Parliament came hither; How willing He hath been (during the foure dayes allowed to them) to expedite the Treaty it selfe, by the free and diligent disquisitions of the particulars, comprised in those two first Articles; And how intent He hath been upon the Cessation (which He thinks so necessary, and so much desires) since the last Message concerning the same came to Him, the Committee themselves cannot but observe. And though no conclusion could be made within the two dayes (a time limited with much strictnesse in a businesse of so great moment, where all words and expressions must be carefully and exactly weighed) His Majesty cannot doubt but both Houses will be willing to give and receive satisfaction in any particulars which are necessarily to be considered in concluding the same, though the two dayes are expired. And if His Majesty enlarges himselfe in His Replies more then may seem necessary to the Propositions and differences in debate, it must be remembred by what unnecessary & unwarrantable expressions in this last Message from His two Houses, He is not only invited, but compelled thereunto, which he could heartily have wished might upon this occasion have been forborne.

1. For the Freedom of Trade, His Majesty hath great Reason to Require, and the two Houses to admit that freedom to His good Subjects He desired. For what concernes the supply of the Army with Armes, Ammunition, Mony, Bullion, and Victualls, He consented to the very termes proposed by the two Houses, and that they may be observed, is contented that searches may be made, which being but the trouble of particular Persons, is not considerable, in respect of the publique benefit and advantage. But why all other Liberty of Traffique and Commerce should not be granted to His good Subjects, He cannot understand, for that His Majesties Army should receive much advantage thereby, and the contrary Army none, is in no degree confessed, for (besides that the restraint is to places, where no part of His Majesties Army is, and indeed the whole Trade of the Kingdom interrupted) tis as great a support, if not a greater to the contrary Army to maintaine and keep up the Trade of *London*, from whence that receives its supply and reliefe, as to His Majesties Army to continue the Trade of *Oxford*, or any other place, where His Forces reside, and to stop and seize the Cloath, Kersies and other Western Commodities (which His Majesty can dayly doe from *Reading*) would be as great disturbance to the Trade of *London*, as the seizing of any Commodities (which may be done by the *Earle* of *Essex* from *Windsor* or *Wickam*) can be to the Trade of *Oxford*. And therefore His Majesty hath great Reason to Presse, that mutuall and universall freedom to all His good Subjects may be granted; otherwise He must either permit that licence to His Army, to seize the goods of His People in their passage to *London*, and so interrupt and breake the Trade and Correspondence of the Kingdome, (which, both out of publique consideration, and private Compassion His Majesty is most averse from) or else must

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grant that evident benefit and advantage to those who deny the same to Him, and to His People for His sake. And it cannot be denyed, but this freedom is so very beneficiall to His Subjects, and so wholy considerable to His Majesty under that Notion, that their very subsistence depends upon it, and by this meanes Trade may be continued, which if a little more suppressed by these Distractions, will not be easily recovered, even by a setled Peace.

His Majesty believes that some Carriers have been rob'd by His Majesties Souldiers, but 'tis as true that no complaint hath been made to Him of that kind, which He hath not received to the Relieſe and Reparation of the Petitioners, and 'tis therefore His desire that both Houses would joyne with Him, (at least during the Cessation) that there might be no more such violences and Interruptions offered to His good Subjects by either side.

For the imbarguing the Merchants goods in Forraigne parts, His Majesty denyes, that any endeavour hath yet been made by His Ministers of State to that purpose; But 'tis true His Majesty hath declared His Resolutions, which He shall pursue, that such persons who absolve themselves from their obedience to Him, and assist or consent to Actions of Disloyalty to Him here, shall be deprived of those advantages, and must not expect that Protection from Him abroad, which is due, and which He alwayes hath and will allow to His good Subjects: and this is not to make other Princes Arbiters of the differences betwixt His Majesty and His People, but to use the mutuall Amity and Correspondence with other Princes for the maintenance and support of that Dignity for which it is made and entred into.

2. His Majesty did not demand the approving of the Commanders of Ships only with reference to His present Right, for then He would have demanded not the approba-

tion of the Commanders, but the ſhips themſelves; But this demand was and is a thing moſt neceſſary for His Majeſty, for the ſetting out the preſent Fleet is pretended to be for the Defence of His Majeſties Dominions, and which cannot conveniently ſuffer any Alteration in Commanders, if the Ceſſation and Peace ſhould be fully and ſpeedily agreed upon, and therefore 'tis moſt neceſſary for His Majeſty to know both the Deſignes, and to approve of the Commanders, who will not be ſo fit to be altered when once they are ſent out. His Majeſty cannot ſee how a Ceſſation at Sea between His Majeſty and His Subjects ſhould leave the Kingdom naked to forraigne Forces, (continuance of Warre may well doe it) and His Majeſty is willing to concurre in the reſiſtance of all ſuch of what kind ſoever; And expects that, during the Ceſſation, the conveying all Forces from one part to another by Sea, for the aſsiſtance of the Earle of *Eſſex*, be reſtrained, which both Houſes ſeem now to conſent to, which was not at all expreſſed in their former Articles.

3. His Majeſties opinion how unfit it was to Treat in blood, ſufficiently appears, this debate concerning a Ceſſation ariſing firſt from His Majeſties motion, (it being left out in the Anſwer to His Meſſage for a Treaty) in order to which He had and hath great reaſon to deſire, that the Committee may have Liberty to debate and conclude any differences and expreſſions in the Articles of the Ceſſation, that the ſame may be reconciled and removed without remitting all Queſtions to *London*. For as thoſe now conſented to, might in much leſſe time have been agreed here, if there had been that Liberty, ſo there can hardly be a right and cleer underſtanding of Intentions without expounding of words, and knowing the meaning from each other, as

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in the conſent which His Majeſty now underſtands to be given by both Houſes, that no Forces ſhall, during the Ceſſation, be ſent by Sea, for the reliefe of any place now held by them, the Expreſſion is not ſo cleer, but referreth to Articles, in which if it was not compriſed before, as His Majeſty doth not conceive it was, no Alteration is made by what now ſeems to be conſented to; And the Liberty which to all underſtandings may ſeem to be given by removing out of one Quarter to another, within the Precincts propoſed, is not yet ſo demonſtrable; The Committee having no Power to anſwer what they underſtand in that poynt, which is moſt neceſſary to be known, that the Peace be not broken during that Ceſſation. And His Majeſty wonders that it ſhould be thought unſafe or unfit to give ſuch a concluſive power of ſuch differences and doubts to the Committee here, when 'tis notoriouſly known, that the very Liberty and Property of the Subject is committed, not only to other Committees of the Houſes without reporting to the Houſes, but to perſons who are imployed by them unintereſſed in, and unacquainted with the directions of either or both Houſes.

4. It was no part of His Majeſties Intention, that His Article againſt Impriſonment of His Subjects, otherwiſe then according to the known Lawes of the Land, ſhould extend to the deſtruction of the military Diſcipline of either Army; but this is a very ſufficient inſtance of the neceſſity of enabling ſome Perſons to conclude upon theſe Articles, without which (through Inanimadvertence or doubtfulneſſe in the Expreſsions) they who are neereſt of a mind, will hardly ever come to conclude, if every *Punctilio* muſt be forced to be ſent forwards and backwards a hundred miles; and (if this Authority had been given to

the Committee here, as for ſuch cauſes was deſired) a limitation of halfe a dozen words (which would have been as ſoon agreed to as propoſed) would have ſaved moſt of this fourth Reaſon; and he that deſires any thing neceſſary to the ſpeed of this Ceſſation gives a good argument of deſiring the Ceſſation it ſelfe, and who ever is averſe to the one, can hardly be thought inclinable to the other.

But ſuch of His Subjects as are not concerned in the Diſcipline of the Army, are not concerned in this objection, and His Majeſty hath reaſon to inſiſt that the ſame Liberty may be reſtored to them in which they were borne, and the Care and Defence of which is ſo much, and ſo meerly pretended by thoſe who deny it to them.

5. Though it grieves His Majeſty to the Soul to ſee the preſent miſerable condition of His Subjects groaning under ſo many viſible preſſures, becauſe of an inviſible neceſsity, and plundred and impriſoned to maintain ſuch a defenſive Warre as was begun to be raiſed againſt Him, before His *Majeſty* had granted one Commiſsion to raiſe a man, yet He cannot but be pleaſed with the Ingenuity of this Confeſsion, that the implicite Faith of His ſeduced Subjects begins to wear out ſo faſt, that the Authority of declaring new unknown fundamentall Lawes, doth not now ſo work with them, to believe that theſe Taxes are laid according to the Lawes of God and Man, nor the many pretences of imminent dangers, and inevitable ruine of their Religion, Lawes and Liberties, ſo perſwade them to believe this Cauſe to be the Cauſe of the Kingdom, but that if their cauſe, authority and eloquence were not aſsiſted by Force and Rapine, their Army muſt needs be diſſolved for want of being thought fit, much leſſe neceſſary to be paid by thoſe, who have equall Right to judge of the neceſsity and danger,

danger, and for whoſe ſakes, intereſts, and concernments only it was pretended to be raiſed, and who are defended by it againſt their wills. Nor is it ſtrange, that His Majeſty cannot receive theſe Charges upon Him as a reaſon to make Him contented and acquieſce with theſe Injuries to His Subjects, or that they who ſaw His Majeſties Condition the laſt Yeare (till continued violence againſt Him opened the Eyes and Hearts of His Subjects to His Aſsiſtance) ſhould not believe that He began that Warre, which they ſaw Him ſo unlikely to reſiſt, or that they, who could never find nor hear from them (who uſe not too modeſtly to conceale what is for their advantage) that from the beginning of the world to this preſent Parliamẽt ever one man was raiſed before by Commiſsion frõ both Houſes, ſhould not believe the raiſing of that their Army to be ſo warranted as is pretended, and any more approve of their Law then of their neceſsity, or that they who know that His Majeſty (in whom the power of making Warre and Peace was never denied to be, till theſe new Doctrines which make it unlawfull for Him to do any thing, & lawfull to do any thing againſt Him, were of late diſcovered) though He can legally raiſe an Army, is not allowed to be legally able to raiſe Mony to maintain it, will not allow of the argument from the Power of Raiſing to the Power of Taxing, and are as little ſatisfied with their Logick as with their Law, and extreamly troubled to pay an Army they doe not deſire, for a neceſſity they cannot ſee, by a Law they never heard of, and that other men without their conſent muſt be jealous, fearfull and quickſighted at their charges; and they have great Reaſon to be apt to ſuſpect that thoſe made moſt haſt to make a Warre, and have leaſt deſire of making Peace, who in time of Warre pretend their legall power to be ſo vaſtly

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enlarged. His Majeſty therefore hath great reaſon to inſiſt that no violence or Plundring be offered to His Subjects for not ſubmitting to the illegall Taxes of one or both Houſes, which in it ſelfe is equall, His Majeſty being willing to be obliged from the like Courſe, and relying wholly upon the known Iuſtice of His Cauſe, and the affection of His People, and in which (if the Kingdom be of their mind, and believe the Cauſe of the contrary Army to be really their own) the advantage would be wholly theirs. And this Iudgement will be beſt given, when the People is left to their Liberty in this deciſion.

His Majeſties reall deſire of disbanding the Armies may fully appeare by His often ſeeking and earneſt Endeavours to continue and conclude this Treaty in order to that disbanding.

6. His Majeſty leaves their Preamble to all the World to conſider, and to judge whether any man by their ſaying, *they were ready to agree to His Majeſties Articles in the manner as was expreſt*, would not have expected to have found, after that expreſsion, that they had agreed at leaſt to ſome one thing materiall in them, and had not only meant by agreeing as was expreſt, to expreſſe they would not agree at all.

For the clauſe of Communication of Quarters ſo quietly left out, His Majeſty looks upon it as of moſt infinite importance, the leaving out of that, having diſcompos'd the whole, many things having in the reſt been aſſented to, which were therefore only yeelded, becauſe the Inconveniences growing by thoſe clauſes, if they were alone, were ſalved by that Addition, and ſome things in the other very darke and doubtfull, were by that interpreted and cleered. And His Majeſty is ſufficiently informed how highly it concernes

concernes Him, that every thing be ſo cleer, that after no Differences may ariſe upon any diſputable Poynt, ſince they whoſe Vnion, Induſtry, Subtilty and Malice could perſwade any of His People, that in the buſineſſe of *Braincesford* He had broken a Ceſſation, before any was made or offered, would have a much eaſier work to lay the breach of a made Ceſſation to His Majeſties Charge, if the ground of that breach would beare the leaſt diſpute.

His Majeſty doth agree, that to preſerve things in the ſame State on both ſides with as little Advantage or diſadvantage to either, as the matter will poſſibly bear, is truly the nature of a Ceſſation, and is willing this Principle ſhould be made the Rule, and never intended any thing that ſhould contradict it; But cannot ſee the inequality in this which is pretended. For could Sir *Ralph Hopton* and the Earle of *Newcaſtle* come by this meanes to the King, and not the Earle of *Stanford*, and Lord *Fairfax* to the Earle of *Eſſex*? Nor can His Majeſty finde any ſtronger Paſſes or Forces to hinder His Armies from joyning with Him, then hinders theirs from joyning with them. If the forces be unequall, theirs will hardly hinder the paſſage of His without a Ceſſation; if they be equall, their comming in time of a Ceſſation will be of equall uſe and advantage to their ſide, ſomewhat in poynt of ſupplies to come with them excepted, and ſome advantage to one ſide will be, poyſe it how you will. But on the other ſide, if this clauſe be not in, how much greater is the diſadvantage the other way by ſome Clauſes? And how are His Forces, principally the Earle of *Newcaſtles* cooped up in old and eaten up Quarters, or neceſſitated to retire to ſuch as are more barren and more eaten? So that if this were yeelded to, under the diſguiſe of a Ceſſation, He muſt admit that which will much endan-

ger the diſſolving of the Army; and deſtruction of the Cauſe, which is ſuch a diſadvantage as is againſt the nature of a Ceſſation formerly agreed and ſtated.

Notwithſtanding all this, His Majeſty, to ſhew His extraordinary and abundant deſire of Peace, and to prevent the effuſion of Blood, is contented, if both Houſes ſhall refuſe to cõſent to His Propoſitions, which are ſo much for the benefit & advancement of the publique Trade & advantage of His good Subjects, to admit a Ceſſation upon the matter of their owne Articles; expecting that Liberty be given to the Committee to word it according to the reall meaning and intention, and that the Remove of Quarters within their own Bounds, which is intended, may be ſo expreſt and underſtood, that no miſtakes may ariſe, ſo that His Majeſty may not be underſtood to Conſent to any impoſing upon, leavying, diſtraining, or impriſoning His good Subjects, to force them to contribute or aſſiſt againſt Him, (which He ſhall alwayes continue to inhibite, requiring all men to reſiſt thoſe illegall Acts of injuſtice & violence, againſt which He doth abſolutely proteſt;) And ſo that there may not be a Liberty for any Rapine, Plundring or ſeaſing upon His Subjects by any of the Souldiers of the Army, for not ſubmitting to ſuch illegall impoſitions as aforeſaid. For otherwiſe they may, during the Ceſſation, (beſides what is already impoſed) impoſe new taxes not only to the nineteenth part, but if they pleaſe (for their pleaſure is all their bound) to the halfe of, or all their Eſtates, upon His good Subjects in His City of *London*, and all Counties within their reach; And their Army would then be at leaſure to be imployed as Collectors, as well of the old impoſitions (which in moſt places without their Army they cannot leavy) as of any ſuch new ones; And vaſt ſummes would and might by this

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meanes be raiſed to the Deſtruction of His Subjects, extraordinary advantage to them, and great diſadvantage to His Majeſty, who can neither obtaine His own conſent to take the like courſes, nor in Caſe He could, is He ſo Quartered, as to have within the Power of His Army (without breach of the Ceſſation by drawing neerer to their Forces) any ſuch City, or ſo many, ſo rich and ſo freſh Counties, as they have to retire into to that purpoſe. So that as nothing is more juſt in it ſelfe, and for His People, then ſuch a limitation, ſo nothing can be more unequall to His Majeſty, or more advantagious to them, then the admiſſion of, or connivence to any ſuch practices upon His People. This Ceſſation to begin on the ninth of *April*, and to continue to the end of twenty dayes from the 25. of *March*. And His Majeſty deſires that the Treaty may proceed upon the Propoſitions in order, upon which His Majeſty hath an earneſt deſire, that a firme and ſtable Peace may be agreed on, and both Armies ſpeedily disbanded, otherwiſe, if during this Ceſſation (in the Articles of which His Majeſty in order to Peace, hath yeelded to things manifeſtly unreaſonable and prejudiciall to His Army) the Treaty be not diſpatched, His Majeſty cannot without manifeſt ruine to His Army (principally that of the *North*) be able to containe Himſelfe beyond this time, now limited for the Ceſſation, in the Quarters in which He hath ſo long been, and now is, and which will hardly be able to hold out ſo long, but muſt be forced to remove, as He ſhall find agreeable for His occaſions.

And in caſe any delay be made in conſenting to theſe His Majeſties Limitations, or that the Houſes ſhall reject this His offer of Ceſſation, His Majeſty as He hath lately deſired (by a Propoſition to both Houſes, delivered to their

Committee, to which He hath yet receeived no Anſwer) ſo He doth earneſtly continue to deſire, that the Treaty it ſelfe may not be delayed or interrupted by it, but that their Committee may be enabled to proceed upon it in the mean while.

April. 8. 1643.

BY Inſtructions this day received from both Houſes of Parliament, we humbly conceive that we are to acquaint Your Majeſty, that they have taken into conſideration Your Majeſties Anſwer to their Reaſons concerning the Ceſſation, wherein there are diverſe expreſſions which will occaſion particular replyes, which at this time they deſire to decline, their wiſhes and endeavours being earneſtly bent upon the obtaining a ſpeedy Peace, for which cauſe they doe not thinke good to conſume any more of the time allowed for the Treaty, in any farther debates upon the Ceſſation, concerning which they find Your Majeſties Expreſſions ſo doubtfull, that it cannot be ſuddenly or eaſily reſolved, and the remainder of the time for the whole Treaty, being but ſeven dayes, if the Ceſſation were preſently agreed, it would not yeeld any conſiderable advantage to the Kingdom.

Wherefore we are required to deſire Your Majeſty to give a ſpeedy and poſitive Anſwer to the firſt Propoſition concerning the Disbanding, that ſo Your Subjects may not only have a ſhadow of Peace in a ſhort time of Ceſſation, but the ſubſtance of it in ſuch manner as may be a perpetuall bleſſing to them, by freeing the Kingdom from thoſe miſerable effects of Warre, the effuſion of Engliſh Blood, and deſolation of many parts of the Land.

Northumberland.

Will. Pierrepont. *Will. Armyne.*

Joh. Holland. *B. Whitelocke.*

HIS

HIS MAJESTIES

Gratious Meſſage to both Houſes, in *Anſwer to the foregoing Paper.*

IF the Committee, according to His Majeſties deſire, had had but power to agree in the wording of Expreſſions in the Articles of Ceſſation, His Majeſties (which are as clear as the matter would beare, and as He could make them) had not appeared ſo doubtfull to any, but that the Ceſſation might have been ſuddenly and ſpeedily reſolved, and that long before this time. And if the Expreſsions of both Houſes in their Reaſons had not neceſsitated His Majeſty in His own Defence, to give ſuch Anſwers as could not upon thoſe poynts deliver Truth without ſome ſhew of ſharpneſſe, no expreſsion of that kind in His Majeſties anſwer had given any pretence for the Rejection of, or refuſing ſo much as to Treat upon the Ceſſation; Which (though it were at preſent for no long time, yet) was from the day named by themſelves the 25. of *March*. Whereas His Majeſty firſt mov'd for a Ceſſation and Treaty without any Limitation at all in the time of either; and His Majeſty was moſt ready to have enlarged the time (ſo that in the mean while the poynt of Quarters might be ſo ſetled, as that His Armies might ſubſiſt,) and which might have been (if they had pleas'd) a very good and promiſing earneſt and Forerunner of that great Bleſsing of Peace; for the obtaining of which the wiſhes and endeavours of all good men being earneſtly bent, a farther debate in order to ſo great a benefit did not deſerve to be ſtiled a Conſumption of time. And His Majeſty cannot but

conceive Himſelfe to be in a ſtrange Condition, if the doubtfulneſſe of Expreſsions, (which muſt alwaies be, whileſt the Treaty is at ſuch a diſtance, and power is denied to thoſe upon the place to help to clear and explain) or His neceſſary Replying to Charges laid upon Him, (that Hee might not ſeem to acknowledge what was ſo charged) or the Limitation of the time of ſeven daies for the Treaty (which was not limited by His Majeſty, who ever deſired to have avoyded that and other Limitations, which have given great interruptions to it) ſhould be as well believed to be the Grounds, as they are made the Arguments of the Rejection of that, which (next to Peace it ſelfe) His Majeſty above all things moſt deſires to ſee agreed and ſetled, and which His Majeſty hopes (if it may be yet agreed on) will give His People ſuch a Taſt of ſuch a Bleſsing, that after a ſhort time of conſideration and comparing of their ſeverall Conditions in Warre and Peace, and what ſhould move them to ſuffer ſo much by a Change, they will not think thoſe their Friends that ſhall force them to it, or be themſelves ready to contribute to the renewing of their former miſeries, without ſome greater evidence of Neceſsity then can appeare to them, when they ſhall have ſeen (as they ſhall ſee, if this Treaty be ſuffered to proceed) that His Majeſty neither askes nor denies any thing, but what not only according to Law He may, but what in Honour and Care of His People He is obliged to ask or deny. And this alone (which a very ſhort Ceſſation would produce) His Majeſty eſteemes a very conſiderable Advantage to the Kingdom; and therefore cannot but preſſe again and again, that whatever is thought doubtfull in the Expreſsions of the Articles, may (as in an Houre it may well be done) be expounded, and whatſoever is excepted at may be debated

and

and concluded, and that Power and Instructions may be given to the Committee to that end, that the miserable effects of Warre, the effusion of English blood, and desolation of England (untill they can be totally taken away) may by this means be stayed and interrupted.

His Majesty supposes, that when the Committee was last required to desire His Majesty to give a speedy and positive Answer to the first Proposition concerning disbanding, His answers in that poynt (to which no reply hath been made, and which He hopes by this time have given satisfaction) were not transmitted and received, but wonders the Houses should presse His Majesty for a speedy and positive Answer to the first part of their first Proposition concerning disbanding, when to the second part of the very same Proposition, concerning His returne to both Houses of Parliament, they had not given any power or instructions to the Committee, so much as to Treat with His Majesty; And when His Majesty (if His desire of Peace and of speeding the Treaty in order to that had not been prevalent with Him) might with all manner of Iustice have delayed to begin to Treat upon one part, untill they had been inabled to treat upon the other; In which poynt, and for want of which Power from them, the only stop now remaines, His Majesties Answers to both parts of their first Proposition, being given in, transmitted, and yet remaining unanswered. To which, untill the Houses shall be at leasure to make answer, that as little delay in this Treaty, as is possible, may be caus'd by it, His Majesty desires likewise, That the Committee may be inabled to Treat upon the following Propositions in their severall orders.

FINIS.